

The Launch Results Summary

August 18, 2025



Contents

1. Purpose, Activities, and Format

2. What We Learned

- a. Treasures
- b. Mapping Opportunities: Results by Area
- c. Mapping Opportunities: Results by Opportunity Type

3. Who We Heard From

Purpose, Activities, and Format

Purpose

- 1. To introduce the planning process to the community.**
- 2. To obtain initial input and ideas building upon Vision Worthington.**

Activities

Activities were the same across all formats and included two parts:

1. Treasures

- What do you treasure about Worthington today?

2. Mapping Opportunities

- Think about locations in Worthington where there are opportunities for change and improvement in the future. Use the map to mark places and indicate the type of opportunity (Housing, Transportation, Commercial Centers and Corridors, or Placemaking and Quality of Life), give the place a name, and describe the opportunity(s).

Format

1. The Launch

- An in-person engagement event was held on June 11.

2. The Launch Webinar

- A virtual webinar was held on June 26 through Zoom.

3. Online Activities

- An online, self-paced survey was available throughout June, July, and early August.

4. Meeting-in-a-box

- Several small group meetings were held by Community Committee members in July and August.

Communication activities have included

- Social media posts
- Targeted social ads
- Nearly 7,000 individuals reached through social media
- Village Talks (print and e-news)
- Emails to 300+ subscribers
- Village Green sign
- Flyers at city facilities and events
- Social groups presentations

Participation at a glance

801

Total participants across all formats

1,055

Total treasures shared

3,098

Total places marked on the map



What we've heard

The following is a summary of themes by topic and by location. Themes attempt to convey similar sentiments expressed repeatedly in responses.

All verbatim comments and map markers are can be viewed on the Worthington Together website.

WorthingtonTogether.org/launch-results/



What We Learned

Treasures

Treasures

Participants were asked:

What do you treasure about Worthington today?

The **1,055** treasures shared were summarized into themes and ordered by how frequently the theme was mentioned among all responses. Individual comments may relate to multiple themes.

Treasures

Strong Sense of Community

Walkability and Bikeability

Downtown / Old Worthington

Schools and Education

Historic Character / Charm

Parks and Green Space

Farmer's Market

Events and Festivals

Location and Accessibility

Restaurants and Dining

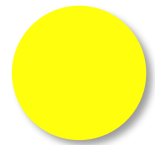
Note: Percentages are based on all treasures comments. Individual comments often relate to multiple themes so totals exceed 100%.

What We Learned

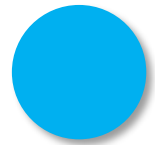
Mapping Opportunities: Results by Area

Four Types of Opportunities

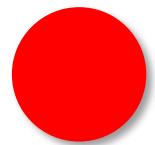
For each opportunity location that participants marked, they assigned the comment one of the four types below. This section of the summary identifies themes by location, rather than by topic alone.



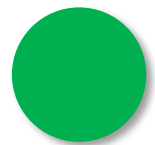
Housing



Transportation



Commercial Corridors and Centers

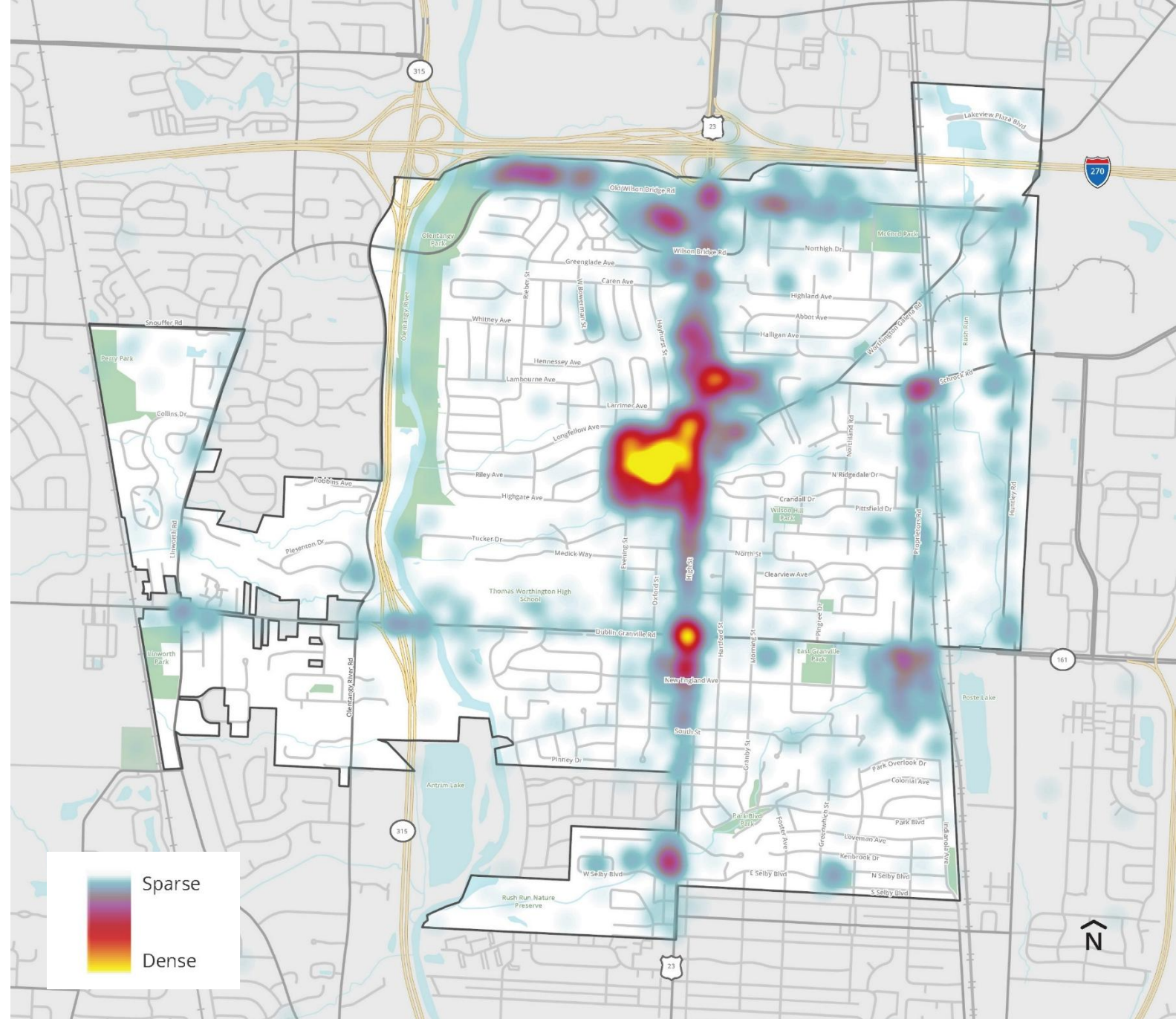


Placemaking and Quality of Life

Opportunities Marked: 3,098

This map shows the relative concentration of all opportunity locations marked, regardless of type. Yellow and red areas had the most comments.

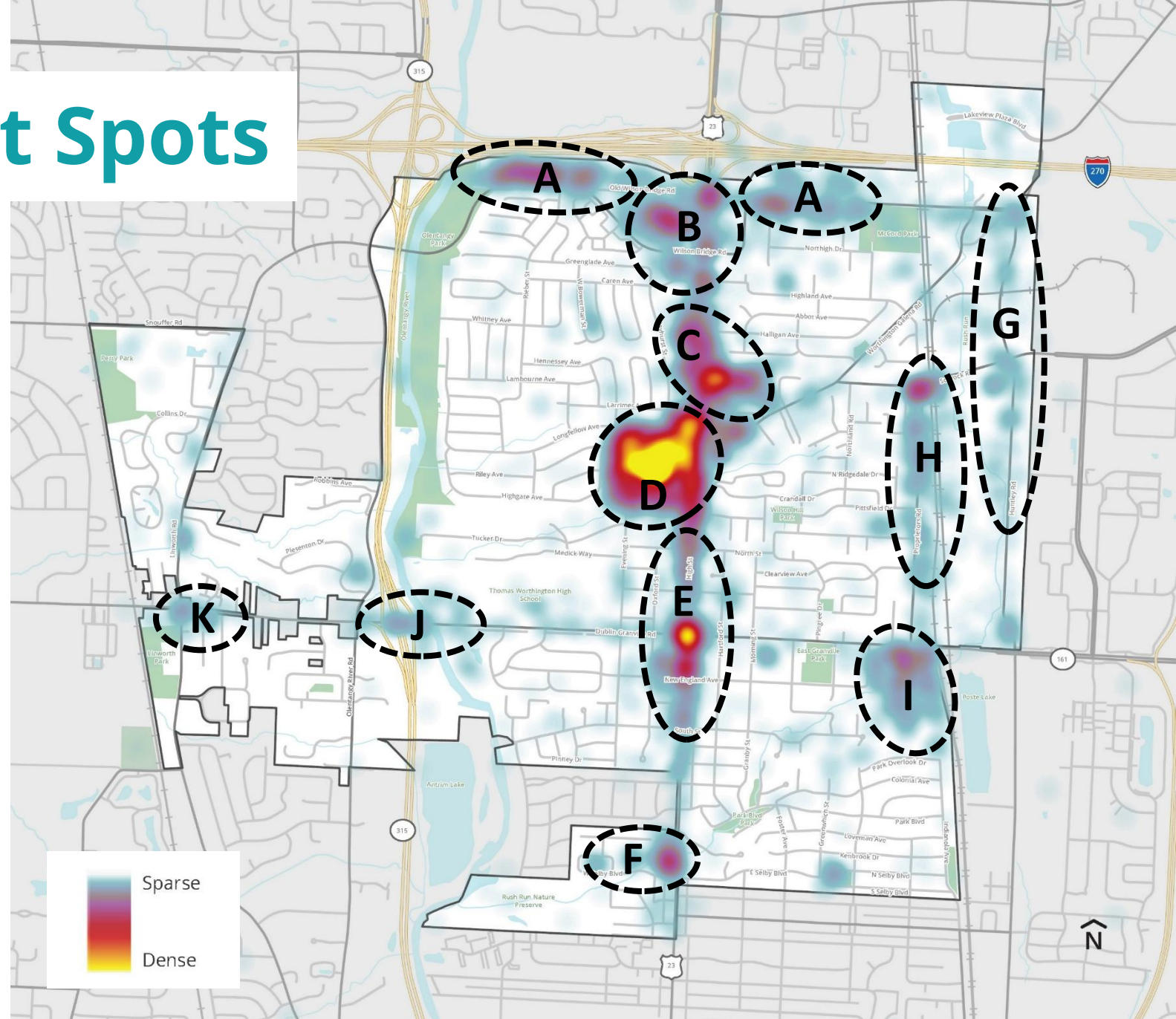
Areas with concentrations of comments “hot spots,” were looked at to summarize comments at those locations. The amount of comments at these areas ranged from a dozen in the Linworth area to over 600 around 1033 High Street.



Opportunity Hot Spots

- A.** Wilson Bridge Road Corridor
- B.** Worthington Mall / Northern Gateway
- C.** 6700 N High Street Site
- D.** 1033 N High Street Site
- E.** Old Worthington
- F.** Southern Gateway along High Street
- G.** Huntley Road Corridor
- H.** Proprietors Road Corridor
- I.** Boundless Site
- J.** Intersection of SR-161 and SR-315
- K.** Linworth Gateway

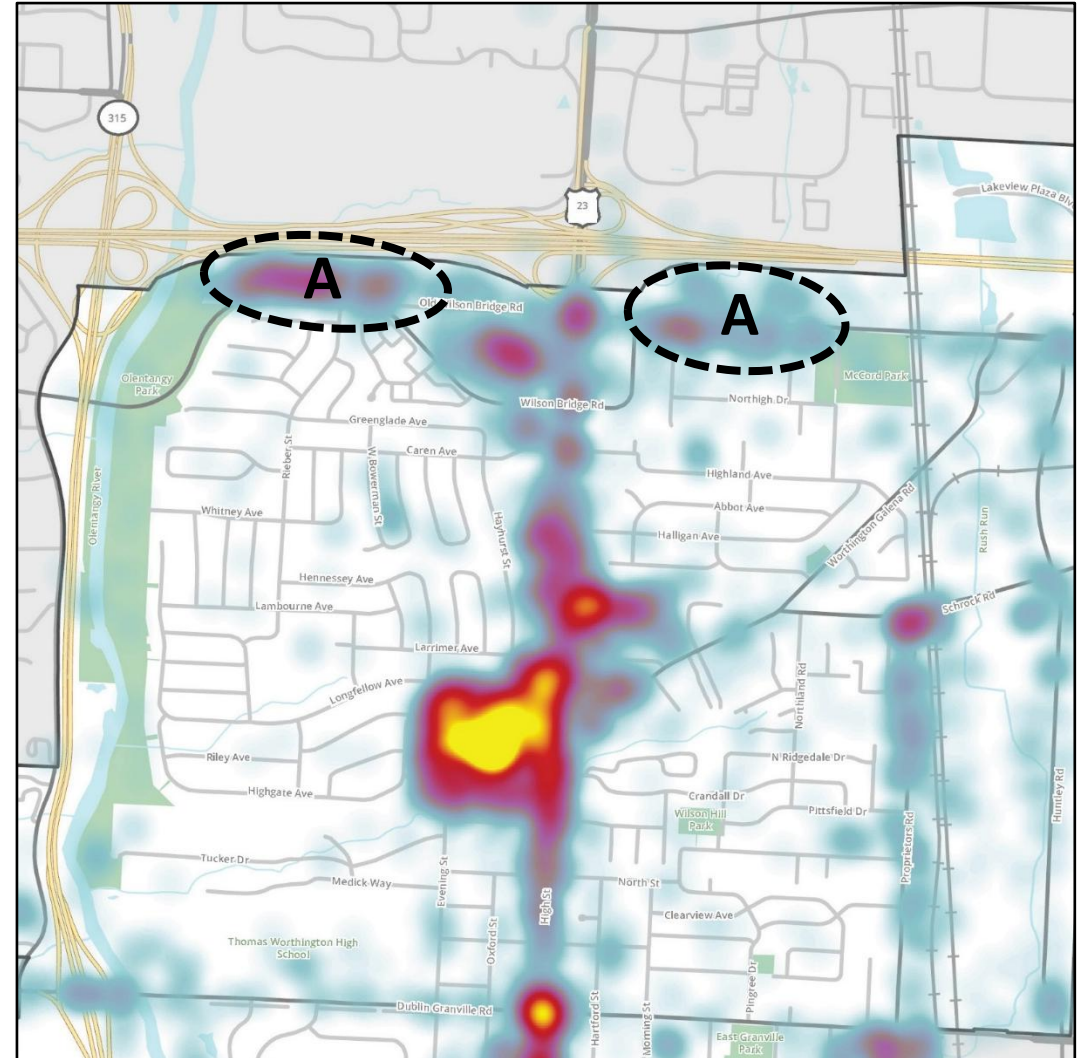
Other areas outside of these “hot spots” received comments that will be considered, but are not themed as part of this summary. Comments can be seen on the online map.



A. Wilson Bridge Road Corridor

Redevelop underutilized lots and dated office buildings

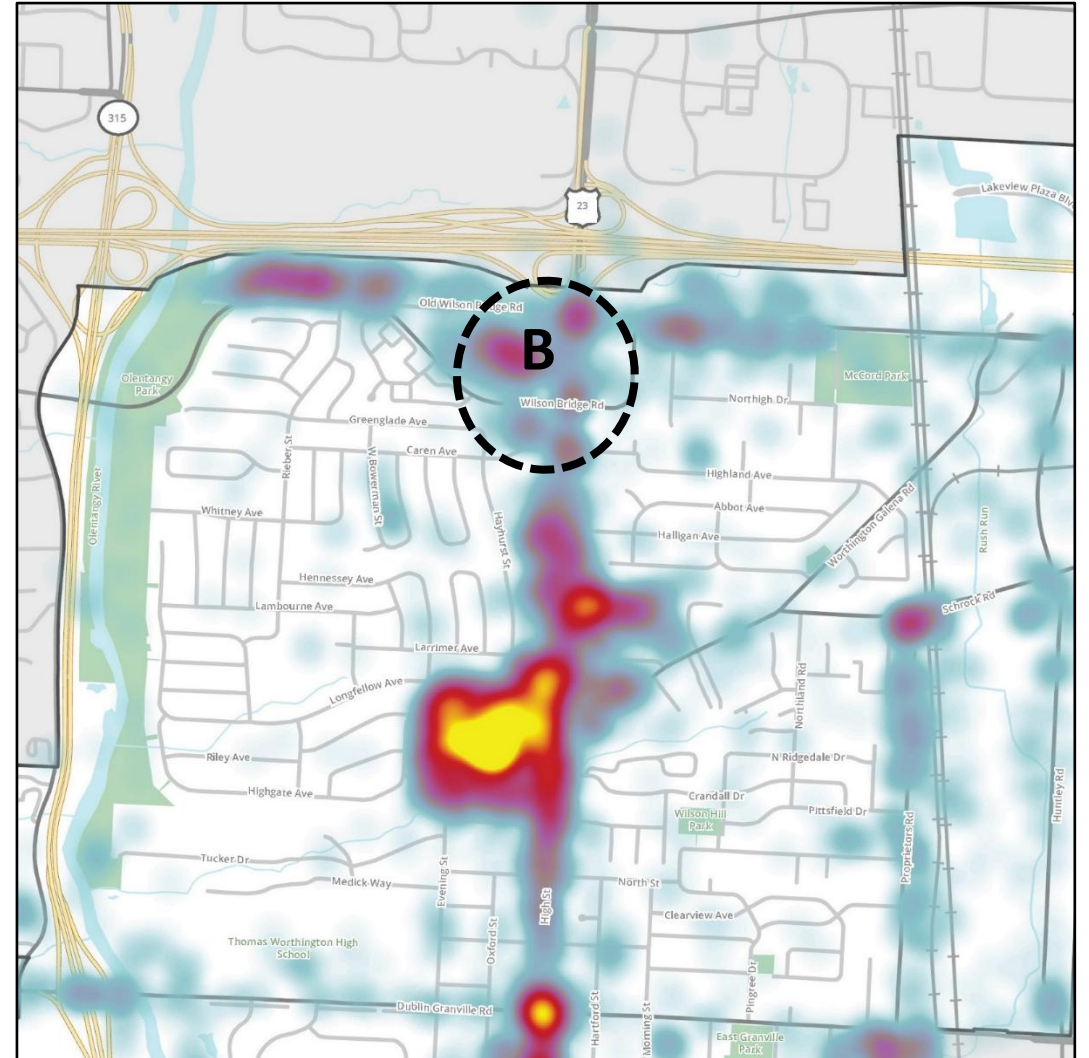
- The vast parking lots and lower-quality office spaces here represent a prime opportunity for redevelopment
- Mixed-use development could activate this area with new housing, commercial, and office spaces
- Placemaking and pedestrianization efforts could make this area feel more like Worthington and better connect it to neighborhood residents



B. Worthington Mall / Northern Gateway

Activate the Worthington Mall area into a mixed-use activity center

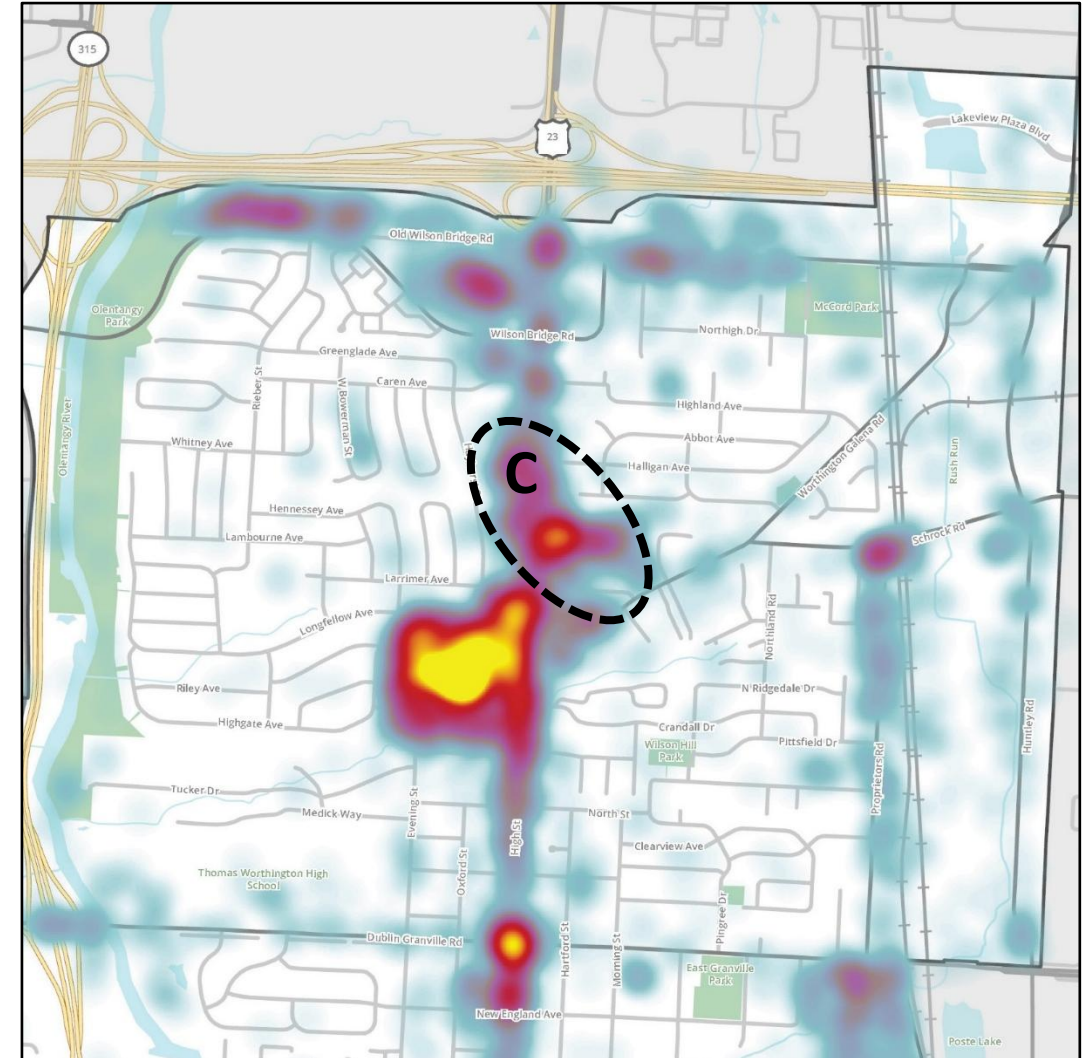
- The mall site could be a vibrant gateway into Worthington that draws in residents and visitors alike, but is seen as “dead” and dated
- Redevelopment of this site could bring more variety in dining, shopping, and entertainment through walkable mixed-use
- Aesthetic improvements and enhanced multi-modal connections could complement redevelopment to help create a cohesive identity with the rest of the City



C. 6700 N High Street Site

Reimagine vacant office spaces into walkable, mixed-use

- The large former Anthem office site and surrounding uses represent a prime opportunity for redevelopment
- The deep street setbacks and auto-centric design divide the Wilson Bridge Road Corridor from Old Worthington
- Redeveloping these sites to continue Old Worthington's character up High Street could activate the space and be an economic catalyst for the City



D. 1033 High Street Site: Themes

Housing Generally

- Broad calls for more housing across many different types, styles, and price points

Parks / Green Space

- Preserve a portion or all of the site as open space, natural areas, trails, playgrounds, and sports fields

Commercial

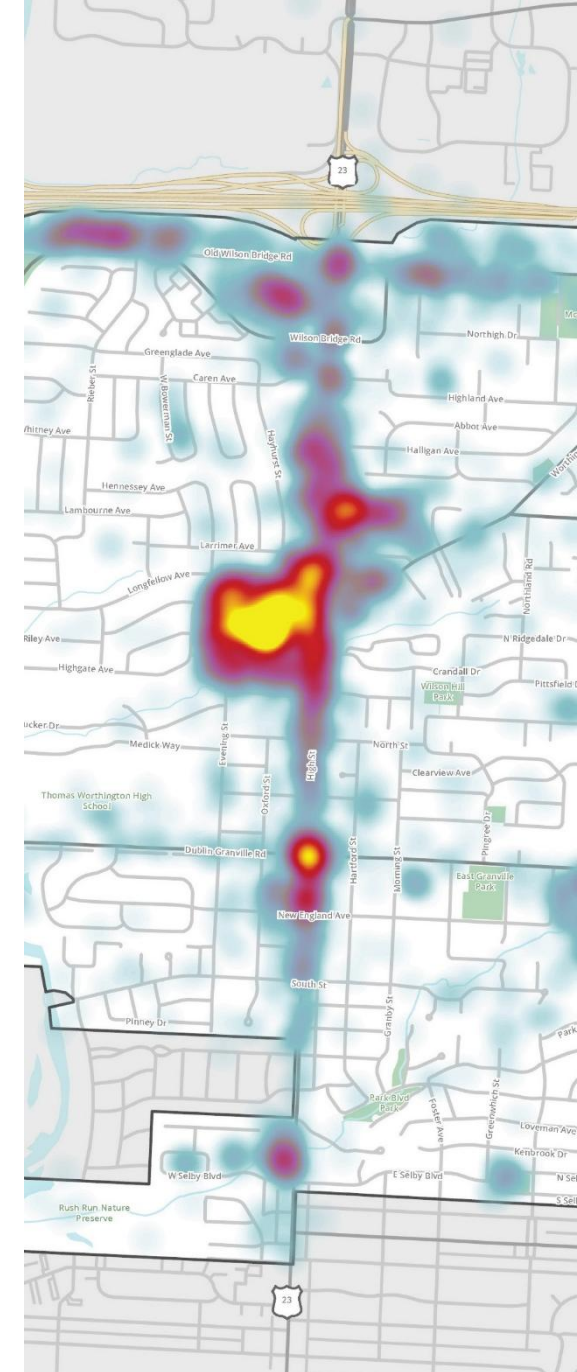
- More retail, restaurants, and other business uses

Community Gathering Places

- New built or programmed spaces such as amphitheaters, recreation centers, cultural venues, libraries, or community centers

Mixed-Use

- Combining housing, commercial, and community uses into one redevelopment approach

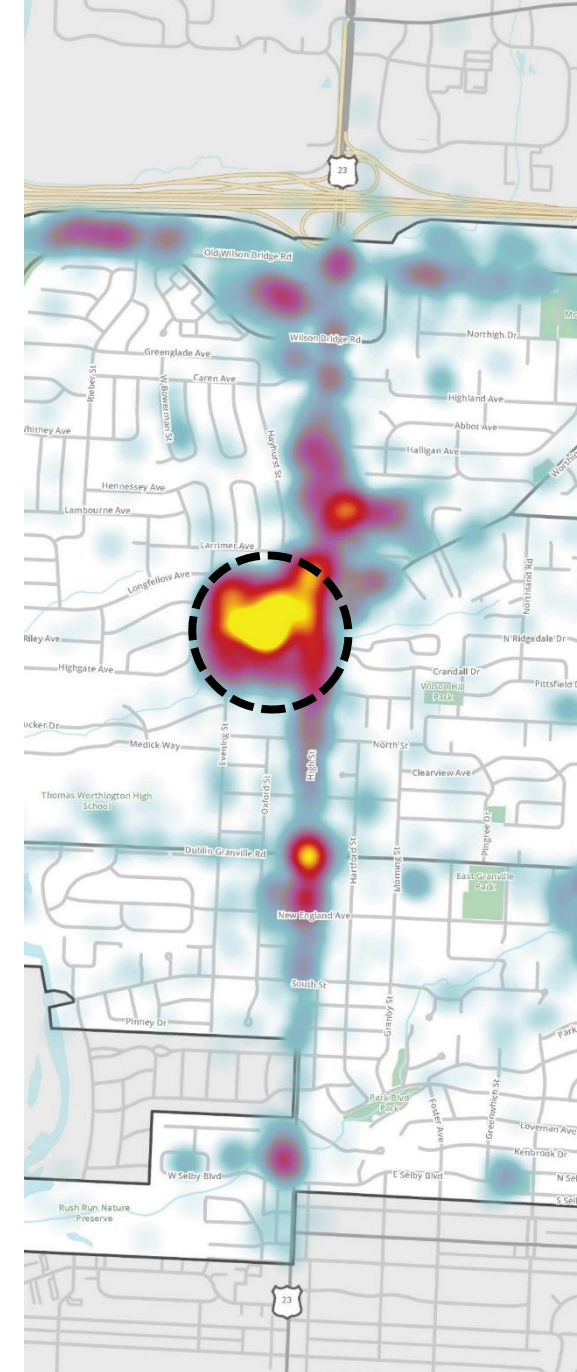


D. 1033 High Street

Conflicting points of view

The area around 1033 High Street had the highest concentration of comments. Those comments showed conflicting points of view in all four topic areas.

1. **Housing:** Some say more housing generally, some specifically mention affordable and workforce housing, while a smaller group mention the desire for single-family or high-end condos/townhomes. (more on next slide)
2. **Commercial Areas:** Some advocate for a vibrant, mixed-use commercial area, while others are concerned about over-commercialization and the impact on residential areas and would support a more suburban feel.
3. **Parks:** Some want to preserve some of the land for a large park/green space, others express a general desire for a community gathering space (park or other type of designed space), while say mixed-use housing and commercial development should take precedence (but that could include a park, plaza, or other programmable public space).
4. **Transportation:** Support for better transit and walkability contrasts with concerns over traffic congestion from added development.



D. 1033 High Street Site: Themes

Housing (287 comments)

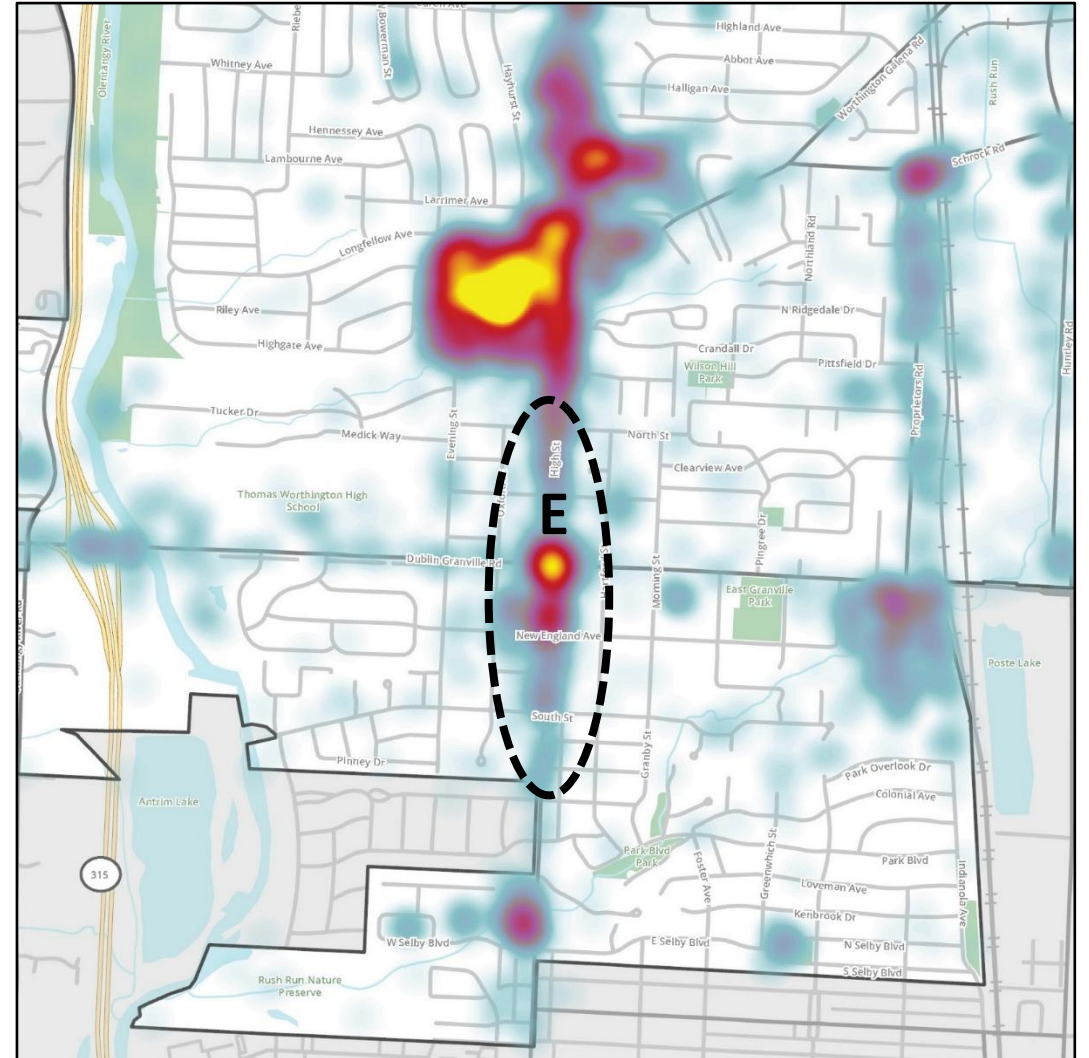
Housing-related comments included a wide range of ideas, which are summarized below. Percentages represent how frequently the concept was mentioned out of the 287 housing-related comments placed in this area.

- Multi-Family: apartments, condos, townhomes, duplexes, etc. (**27%**)
- Senior / Empty-Nester Housing (**19%**)
- Affordable / Workforce Housing (**13%**)
- Single-Family Homes (**9%**)
- High-End / Upscale Housing (**1%**)
- No Apartments (**1%**)
- No Housing At All (**<1%**)

E. Old Worthington

Strengthen and enhance Worthington's historic downtown

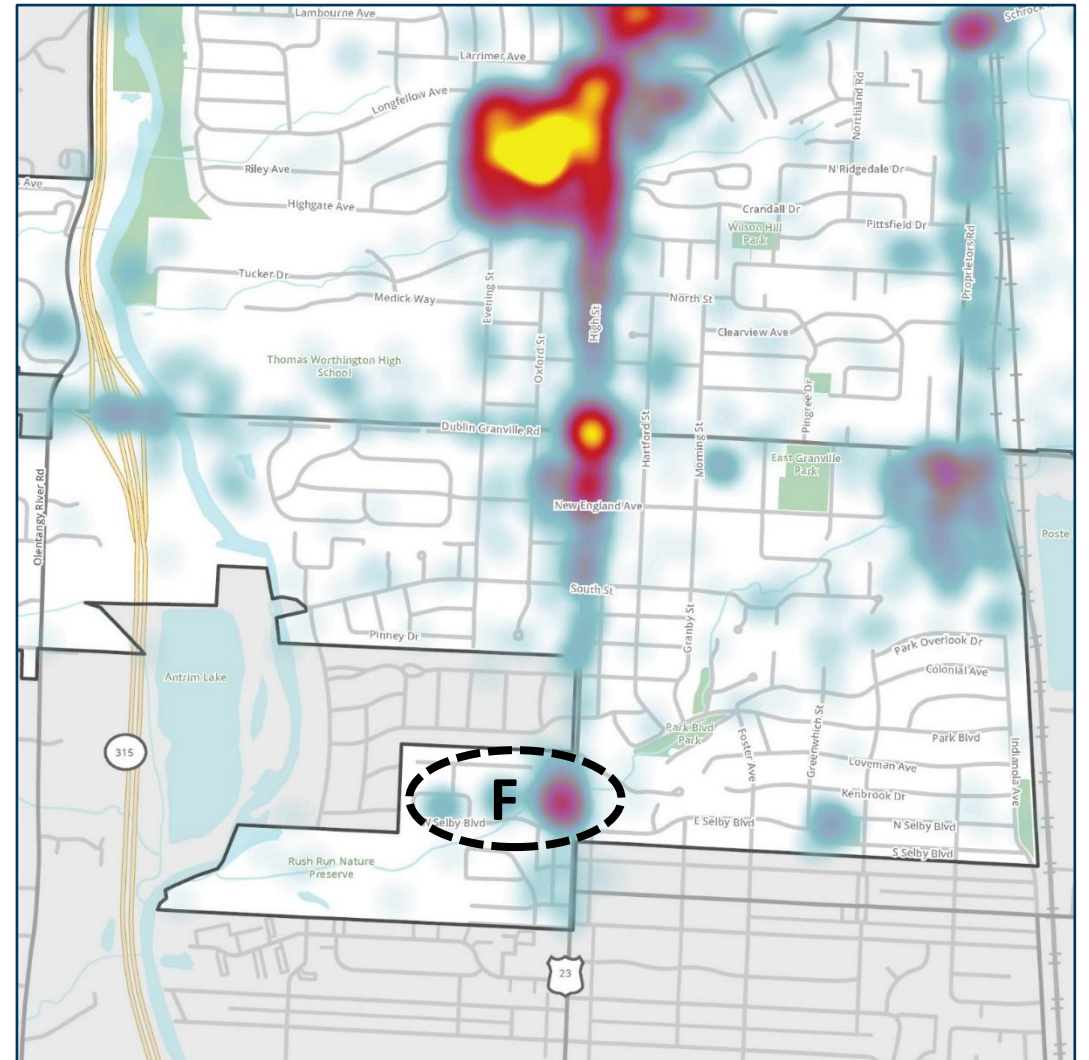
- Respondents love the character of downtown and want to see it enhanced and expanded so they can enjoy it more often
- People desire new, unique businesses with more diverse offerings, especially restaurants and family-friendly attractions
- Enhanced multi-modal connectivity is desired to bring residents into downtown from all around the City by foot, bike, transit, and car



F. Southern Gateway along High Street

Convert this underutilized space into a true gateway into the City

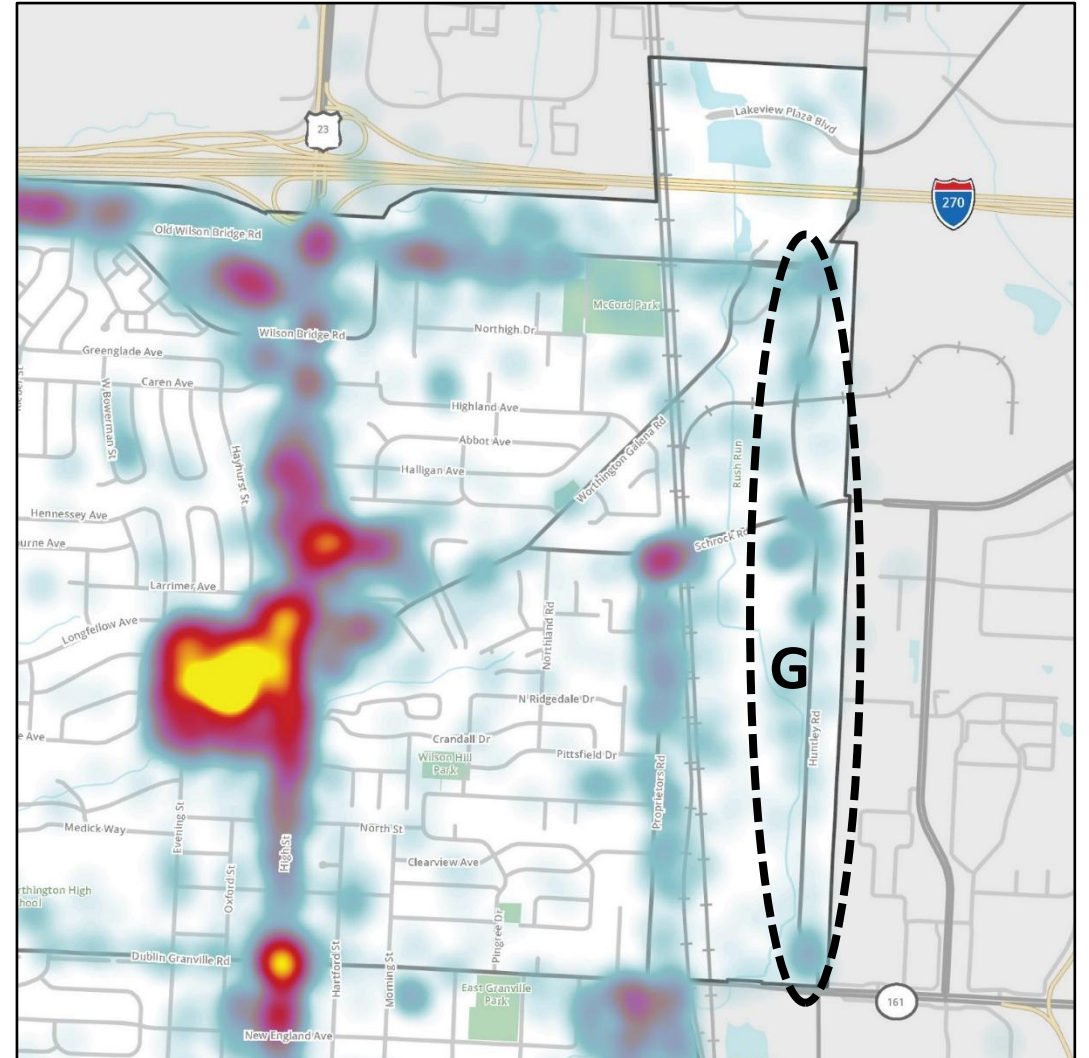
- Enhance placemaking to identify the area as the entrance to the City
- Redevelop the vacant and underutilized land into human-scale mixed-use and residential
- Improve connections for pedestrians and cyclists between this area, the surrounding neighborhoods, and downtown Worthington
- Protect Rush Run



G. Huntley Road Corridor

Transform this dated industrial corridor into a live-work-play economic hub

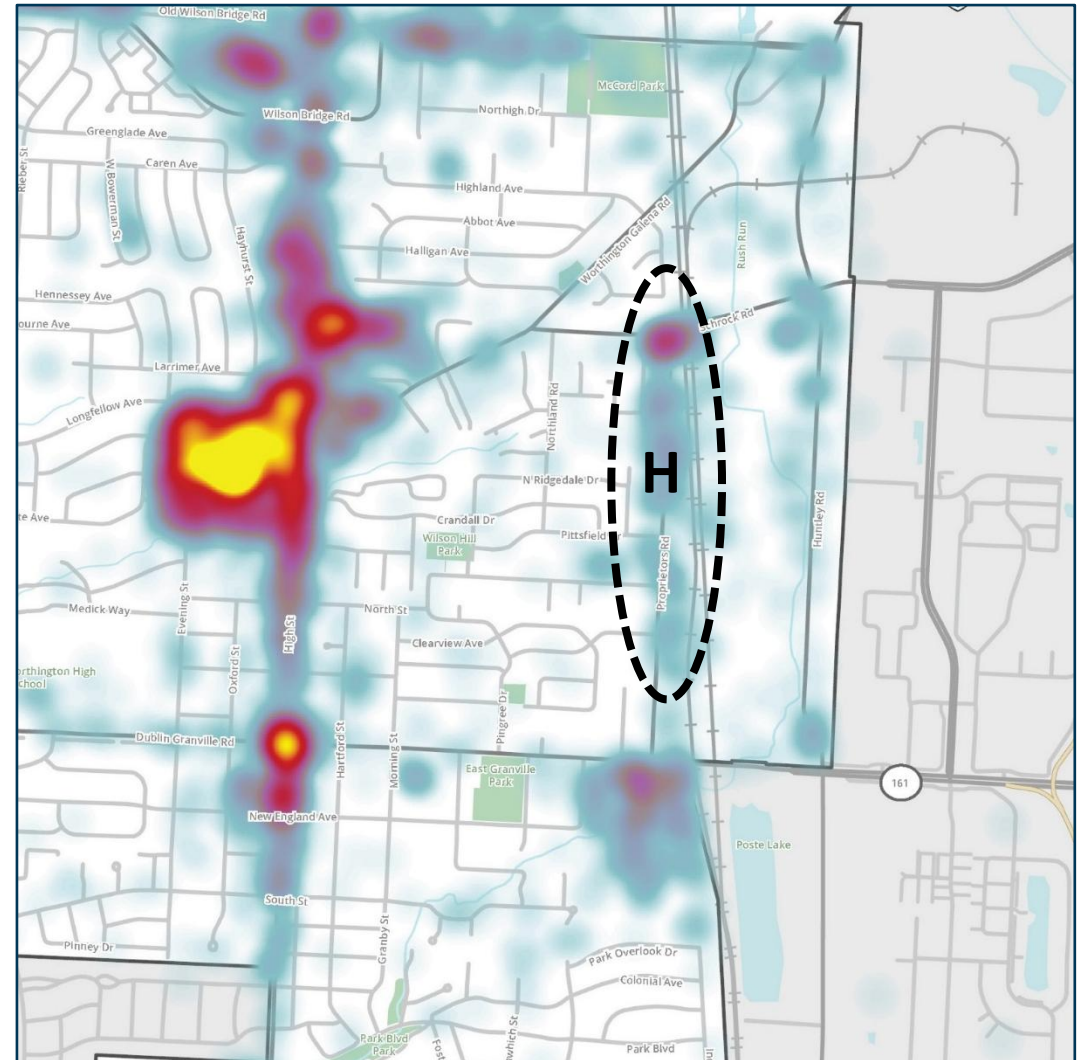
- Encourage new environmentally conscious light industrial development
- Integrate housing and vibrant entertainment to create a unique identity for this area, like Grandview or Franklinton
- Pedestrianize this corridor and work with COTA to add new transit connections



H. Proprietors Road Corridor

Take advantage of underutilized and vacant land to create diverse housing and economic opportunity

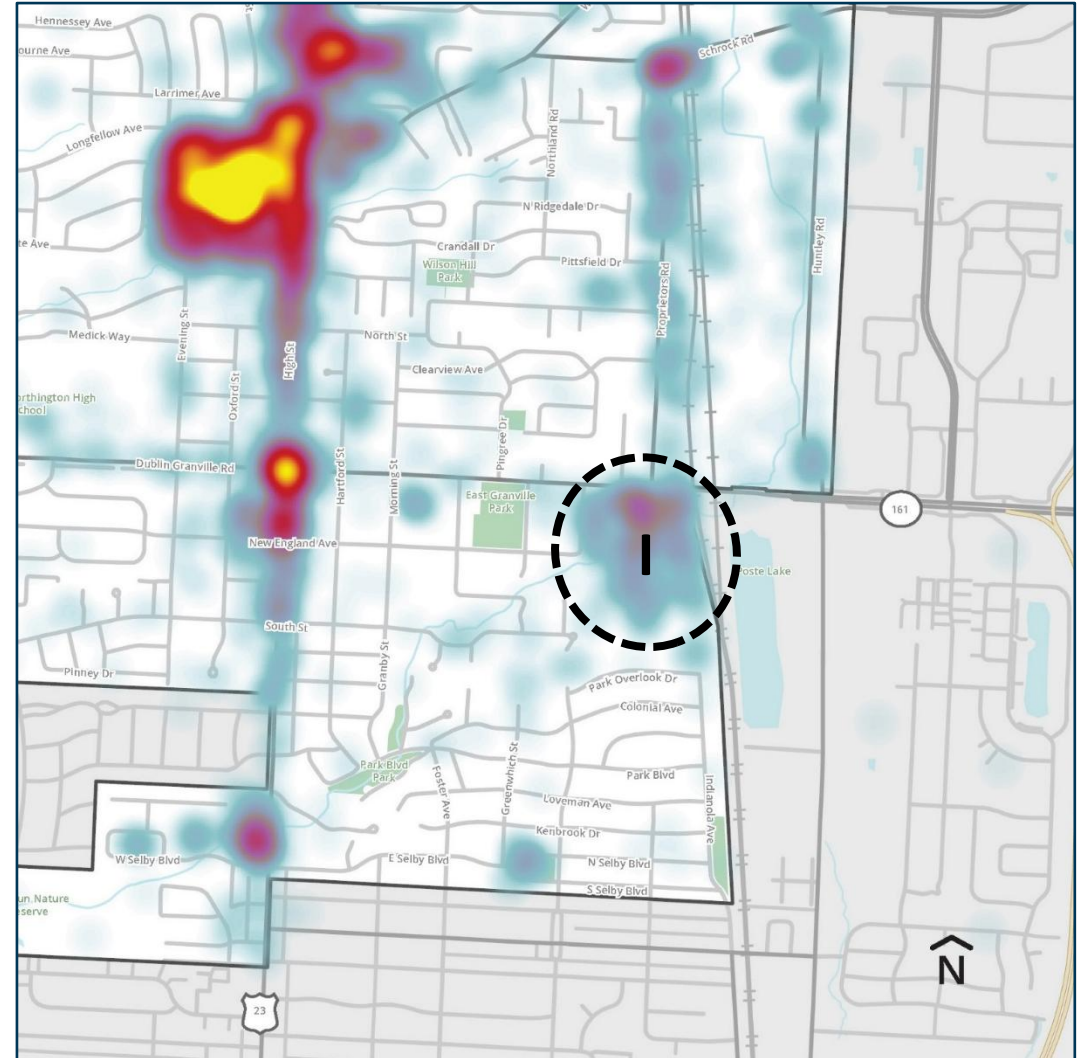
- Encourage infill development on the existing vacant lots along Proprietors Road
- Prioritize new multi-family housing focused on lower-income households and seniors
- Create entrepreneurial opportunities that encourage small businesses and start-ups to move into this area
- Work with COTA to create transit connections



I. Boundless Site

Intentions are mixed as to what this site should become. Common suggestions include...

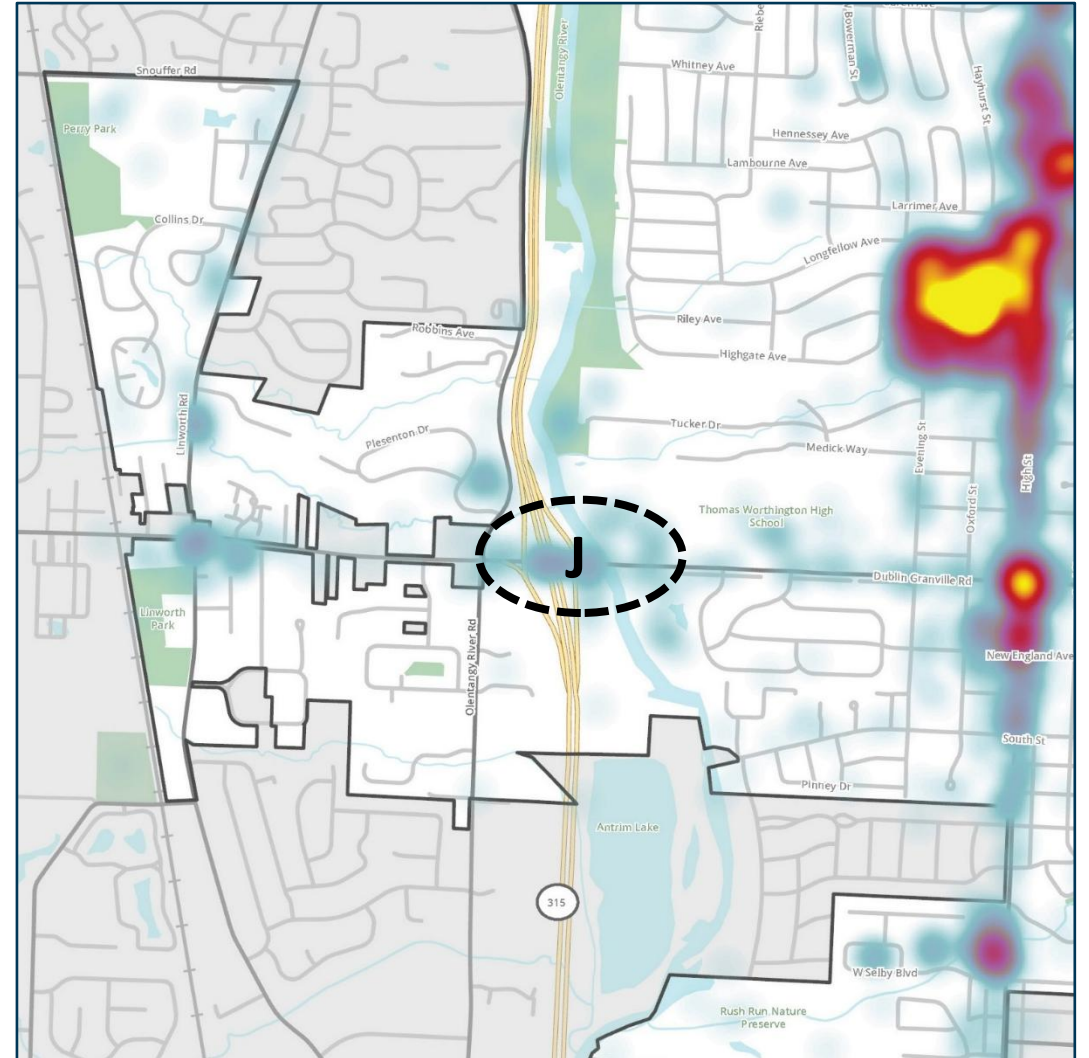
- The need for more housing, including suggestions for affordable housing, apartments, and senior-oriented housing
- Others want to preserve this area as a park, green space, and historical site for its cultural/aesthetic/environmental/health value
- Several suggest using part of the site for Colonial Hills Elementary School
- Mixed-use development was also mentioned, focusing on SR-161 frontage



J. Intersection of SR-161 and SR-315

Enhance transportation and green space connections

- Improve road infrastructure to reduce traffic and congestion
- Create better safety and connectivity and safety for pedestrians and cyclists the east and west sides of SR-315 and the Olentangy River
- Make the Olentangy Trail and Olentangy Parklands more accessible
- Improve streetscapes and signage



K. Linworth Gateway

Create better connections to enhance identity and accessibility

- Create connections for pedestrians and cyclists between this area, the surrounding neighborhoods, and downtown Worthington
- Improve road infrastructure to reduce traffic and congestion
- Enhance and grow the commercial here

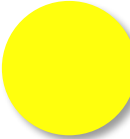
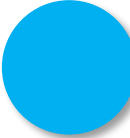
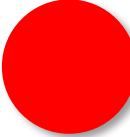
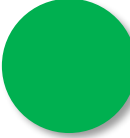


What We Learned

Mapping Opportunities: Results by Opportunity Type

Four Types of Opportunities

For each opportunity location that participants marked, they assigned the comment one of the four types below. This section of the summary identifies themes by topic, regardless of location. Percentages beside each theme indicate a relative number of comments in that theme. The percentages do not total 100 since many comment include multiple themes.

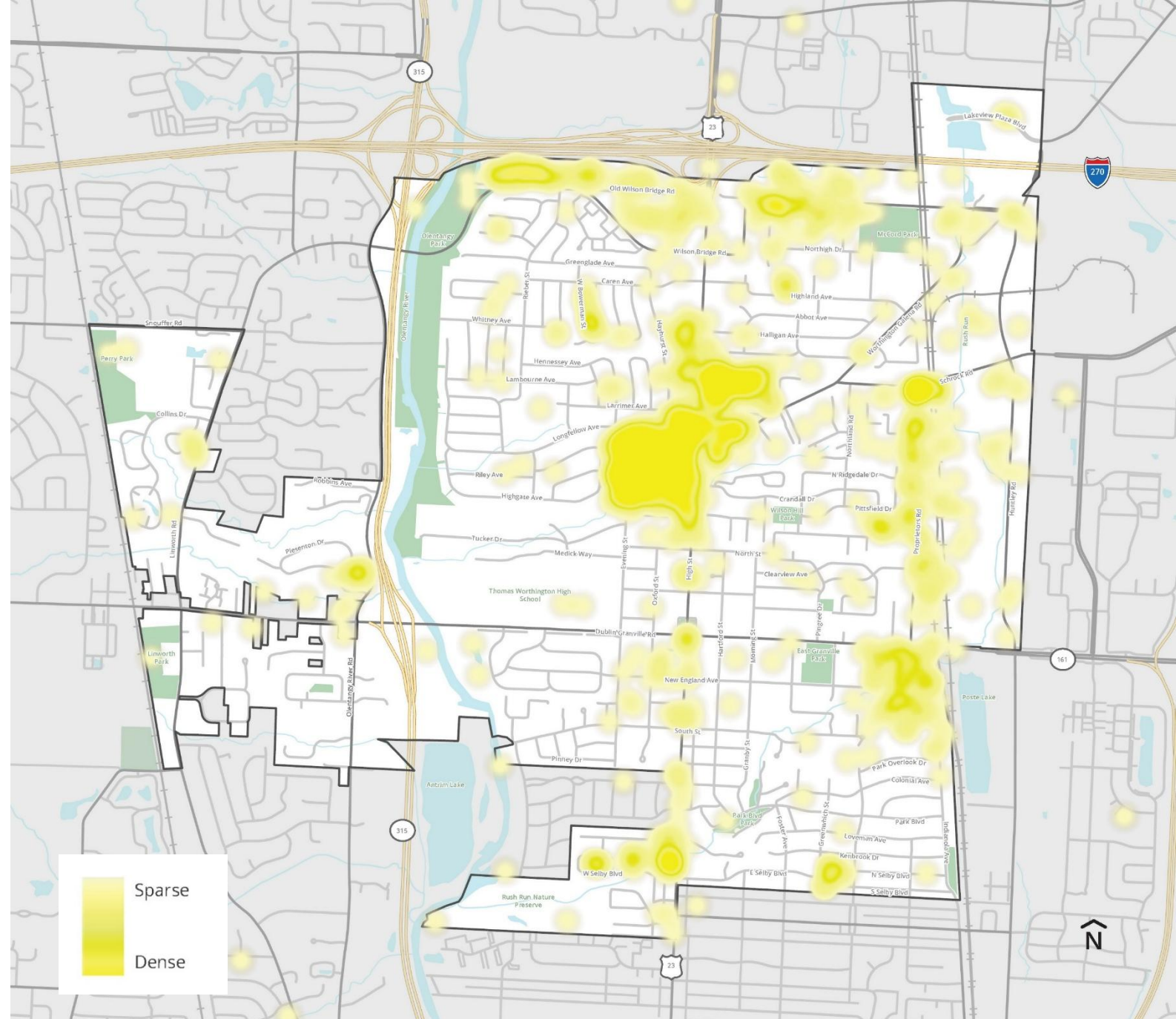
-  Housing
-  Transportation
-  Commercial Corridors and Centers
-  Placemaking and Quality of Life

Housing

1,046 Opportunities Marked

Where are locations with opportunities to increase the range of housing options in the community?

What housing types, price points, or other attributes are needed?



Housing: Themes

More Housing Generally (61%)

- Broad need for more housing, citing opportunities on underutilized/vacant land

Apartments and Multi-Family (26%)

- Apartments, condominiums, duplexes, or other multifamily options to diversify the housing stock

Mixed-Use and Higher-Density (23%)

- Opportunities for mixed-use developments and higher-density housing, especially near corridors and nodes

Senior / Empty-Nester Housing (15%)

- Housing suited towards seniors and empty-nesters, like patio homes, single-story units, or other retirement-friendly options

Affordable Housing (9%)

- Workforce housing, low-income options, and ensuring that new housing meets a range of price points

Single-Family (6%)

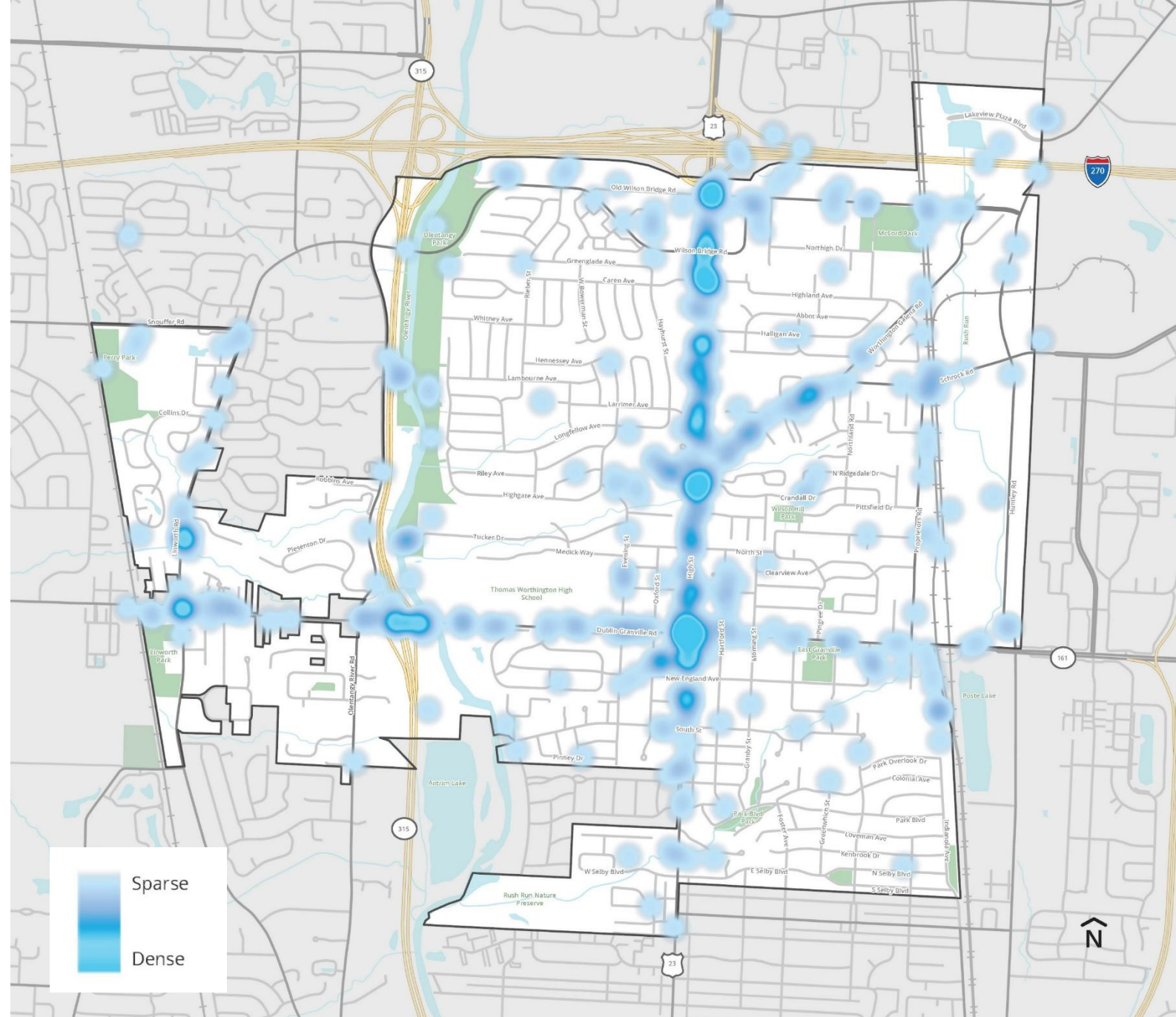
- New single-family homes

Note: Percentages are taken out of all housing comments, and individual comments often relate to multiple themes, totaling percentages above 100.

Transportation

446 Opportunities Marked

Where are locations to improve connectivity and how people move around the community? What facilities or characteristics are important?



Transportation: Themes

Pedestrian Accessibility (35%)

- Safer and more complete pedestrian connections, including new sidewalks, crosswalks, and walkability improvements

Street Improvements (34%)

- Problem intersections, bridges, and road segments where improvements are needed to ease congestion, improve safety, or modernize infrastructure

Bike Facilities and Connectivity (26%)

- Expanding bike lanes, bike paths, and bicycle connectivity throughout the community

Transit / Bus Connections (23%)

- Strengthen COTA service and better integrate transit into the city's transportation network

Traffic, Safety, and Speed (17%)

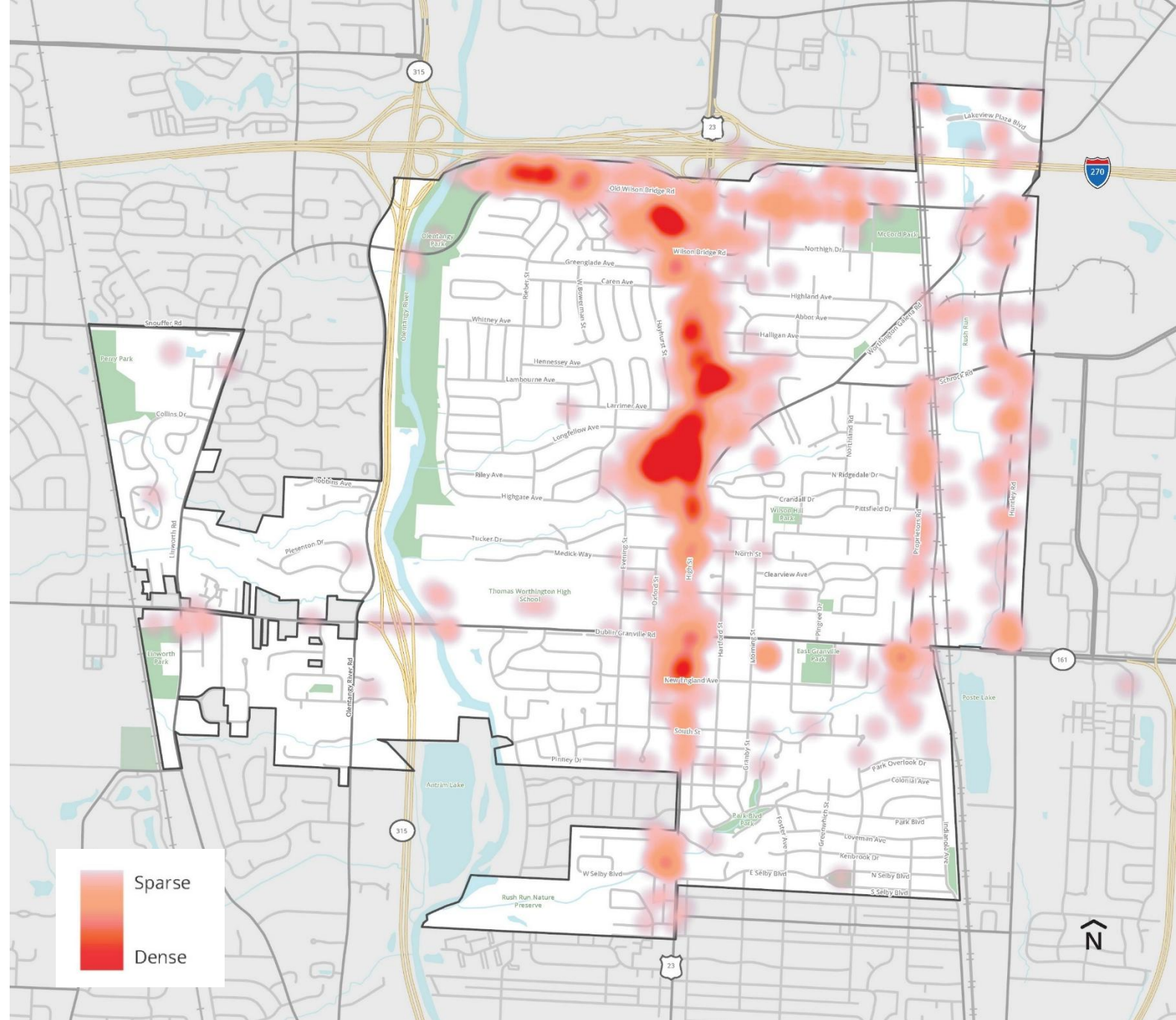
- Concerns about traffic congestion, speeding, and the need for calming measures to improve safety on local streets

Note: Percentages are taken out of all transportation comments, and individual comments often relate to multiple themes, totaling percentages above 100.

Commercial Corridors and Centers

835 Opportunities Marked

Where are locations to improve the character and function of commercial places in the community?
What attributes of future places are important?



Commercial Areas: Themes

Retail and Shopping (25%)

- More retail options, including shops, stores, and revitalized shopping areas

Restaurants and Dining (23%)

- More dining opportunities, including restaurants, cafes, breweries, and food halls

Mixed-Use Redevelopment (22%)

- Redevelop existing sites into mixed-use districts that combine housing, retail, offices, and civic amenities, especially in key commercial nodes

Underutilized / Vacant Sites (16%)

- Vacant or underutilized commercial buildings and lots as opportunities for reinvestment and new community-serving uses

Office and Employment Space (13%)

- Improve or expand office space and employment centers, including interest in modern workspaces and coworking opportunities

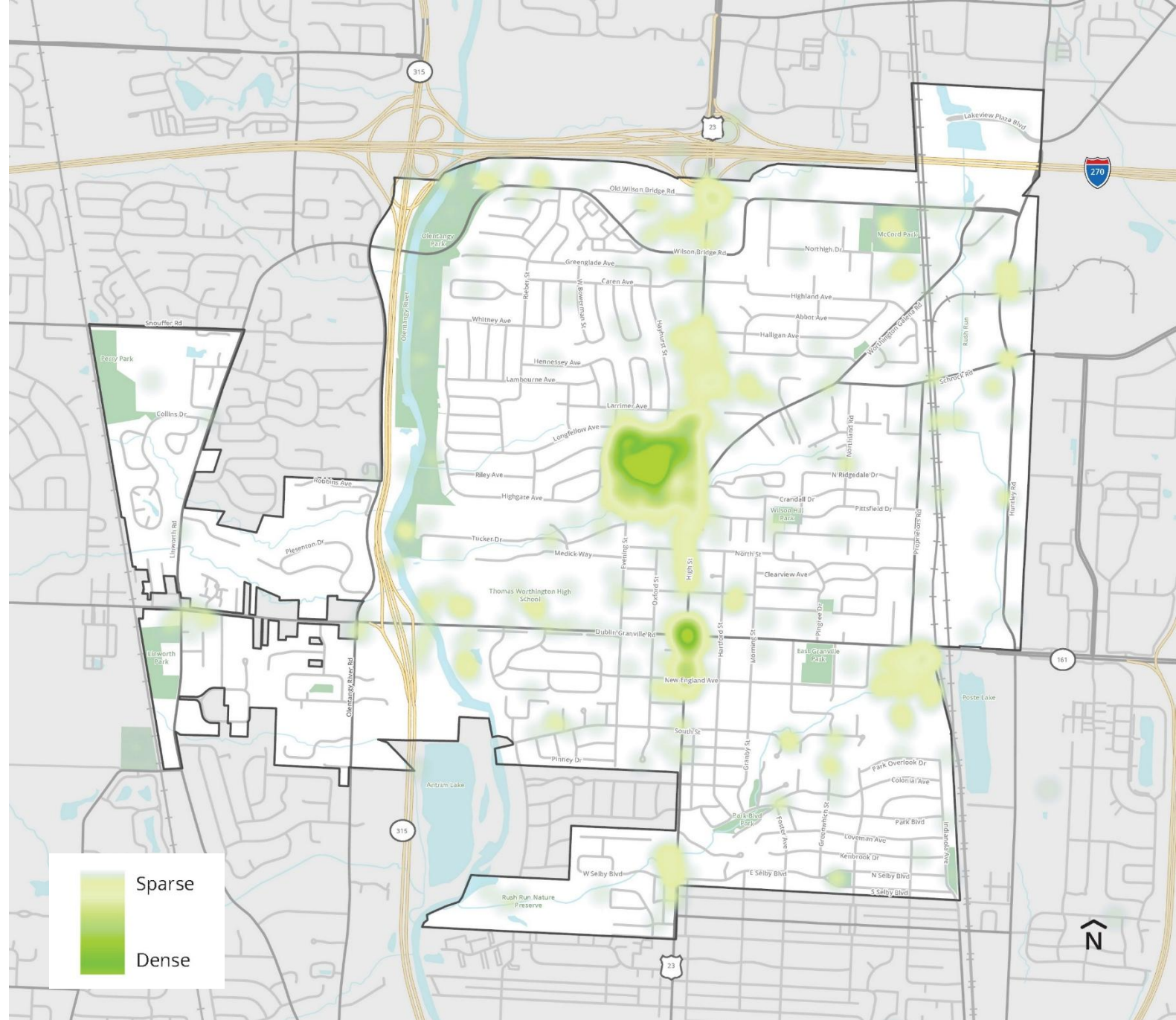
Note: Percentages are taken out of all commercial area comments, and individual comments often relate to multiple themes, totaling percentages above 100.

Placemaking and Quality of Life*

771 Opportunities Marked

Where are locations to strengthen the community's environmental stewardship, quality of place, and amenities?

** For the purposes of this activity, quality of life refers to parks, natural resources, amenities, and sustainability.*



Placemaking: Themes

Parks and Green Space (44%)

- Preserving, enhancing, and expanding parks, open spaces, and green areas

Environmental Stewardship and Sustainability (33%)

- Protecting natural resources (trees, rivers, creeks), improving environmental sustainability, and promoting green practices

Community Gathering (27%)

- More community spaces, plazas, and gathering places for events, festivals, and social connection

Traffic and Streetscape Improvements (19%)

- Traffic calming, safer streets, improved streetscapes, and better pedestrian infrastructure

Walkability and Connectivity (18%)

- Expanding trail systems, bike connections, sidewalks, and overall walkability throughout the city

Note: Percentages are taken out of all placemaking comments, and individual comments often relate to multiple themes, totaling percentages above 100.

Who We Heard From

Participation Breakdown

The following characteristics are based on responses from participants. Not all participants provided this information.

How did we hear from Worthington?

- The Launch: **205**
- The Launch Webinar: **40**
- Online only: **529**
- Meeting-in-a-box: **27**

801

Total participants

Demographic Breakdown

The following characteristics are based on responses from participants. Not all participants provided this information.

Racial Identity	#	%	2023 ACS
Asian	7	1.0%	2.0%
Black/African-American	12	1.7%	2.7%
Native American	1	0.1%	0.1%
White	680	93.5%	90.8%
More than one race	13	1.8%	4.3%
Other	14	1.9%	0.1%
Total	727		

Hispanic/Latino	#	%	2023 ACS
Yes	12	1.7%	1.8%
No	707	98.3%	98.2%
Total	719		

Education Level	#	%	2023 ACS
Less than a high school diploma	22	3.0%	1.2%
High school diploma	20	2.7%	5.6%
Some college, no degree	41	5.6%	16.2%
Associate's degree	12	1.7%	4.3%
Bachelor's degree	296	40.6%	38.4%
Graduate or professional degree	338	46.4%	34.2%
Total	729		

Household Income	#	%	2023 ACS
Less than \$50,000	38	5.4%	17.6%
\$50,000 to \$99,999	121	17.2%	22.5%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	283	40.2%	32.0%
\$200,000 or more	262	37.2%	27.9%
Total	704		

Age	#	%	2023 ACS
Under 15	10	-	-
15-24	38	5.2%	8.7%
25-34	53	7.2%	11.6%
35-44	194	26.5%	22.3%
45-54	145	19.8%	15.6%
55-64	98	13.4%	14.5%
65 or over	195	26.6%	27.4%
Total	733		

Gender Identity	#	%	2023 ACS
Male	277	37.9%	46.8%
Female	437	59.8%	53.2%
Non-Binary	4	0.5%	-
Prefer not to say	13	1.8%	-
Total	731		

Connection and Communication

The following characteristics are based on responses from participants. Not all participants provided this information.

Place of Residence	#	%
City of Worthington	638	87.8%
Village of Riverlea	12	1.7%
Perry Township	8	1.1%
Sharon Township	9	1.2%
City of Columbus	52	7.2%
Other	8	1.1%
Total	727	

Other responses included: "Westerville", "Galloway", "Bexley, property owner in Worthington", "Post office Dublin; Worthington Schools; Columbus utilities"

Housing Tenure	#	%
Less than 1 year	17	2.3%
1-5 years	145	20.0%
6-10 years	159	21.9%
11-15 years	133	18.3%
16-20 years	67	9.2%
21+ years	204	28.1%
Total	725	

Rent or Own	#	%	2023 ACS
Own	667	92.1%	82.9%
Rent	34	4.7%	17.1%
Other	23	3.2%	-
Total	724		

Other responses included: "Live with parents", "Living with aging parent", "Mom owns", "Live with Family", "I'm a minor"

How You Heard*	#	%
Word of Mouth	215	24.0%
City Website	103	11.5%
Email	194	21.7%
Social Media	273	30.5%
Poster/Flyer	31	3.5%
Online News	27	3.0%
Other	52	5.8%
Total	895*	

Other responses included: "DQ", "Friend", "Neighbor", "Committee Member", "Instagram", "Facebook", "Local newspaper", "Chamber", "Billboard on The Green"

**Participants could choose multiple options on this question*

View All Comments